

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(withdrawn):** A method for measuring lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises allowing a Limulus reagent to contact with the sample.
2. **(withdrawn):** The method according to claim 1, which further comprises heating the lipoarabinomannan-containing sample before the contact with the Limulus reagent.
3. **(withdrawn):** The method according to claim 2, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.
4. **(withdrawn):** A method for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises using the method of claim 1.
5. **(withdrawn):** The method according to claim 4, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a tubercle bacillus.
6. **(withdrawn):** A kit for measuring lipoarabinomannan, which comprises a Limulus reagent as a component.

7. (withdrawn): The kit according to claim 6, wherein the Limulus reagent is an

endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

8. (withdrawn): A kit for detecting an acid-fast bacterium, which comprises the kit of

claim 6.

9. (withdrawn): The kit according to claim 8, wherein the acid-fast bacterium is a

tubercle bacillus.

10. (currently amended): A method for removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan in a

lipoarabinomannan-containing sample with-to a Limulus reagent, which comprises allowing one or more substance(s) selected from the following group to coexist with the sample:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)- β -glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)- β -glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.

11. (currently amended): A method for measuring an endotoxin using a Limulus

reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with-to a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10, contacting said sample with a Limulus reagent, and detecting or measuring the Limulus reaction induced by said endotoxin.

12. (original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

13. (currently amended): A method for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises detecting or measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample according to the method of claim 11.

14. (withdrawn): A kit for measuring an endotoxin, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components:

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)- β -glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)- β -glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor and a strong alkaline substance.

15. (withdrawn): The kit according to claim 14, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

16. (withdrawn): A kit for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises the kit of claim 14.

17. (withdrawn): A method for measuring a (1→3)- β -glucan using a Limulus reagent in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, which comprises removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan with a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10.

18. (withdrawn): The method according to claim 17, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)- β -glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

19. (withdrawn): A method for detecting mycosis, which comprises using the method of claim 17.

20. (withdrawn): A kit for measuring a (1→3)- β -glucan, which comprises a Limulus reagent and one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as components: a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin histidine and histamine.

21. (withdrawn): The kit according to claim 20, wherein the Limulus reagent is a (1→3)- β -glucan-specific Limulus reagent.

22. (withdrawn): A kit for detecting mycosis, which comprises the kit of claim 20.

23. (withdrawn): An agent for binding of lipoarabinomannan, which comprises one or more substance(s) selected from the following group as an active ingredient: an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, (1→3)- β -glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)- β -glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine.